

Message Text

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R 211902Z JUN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 157727

FROM ANDREWS FOR WILGIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

REF: STATE 154846

1. GOLDMAN OF JDC TOLD US JUNE 19 THAT THE
INFORMATION IN PARAGRAPH 1 OF THE REFTEL CONCERNING
THE FAVORABLE EXCHANGE RATE AND THE GOH DONATION IS
EXTREMELY SENSITIVE AND SHOULD BE CLOSELY HELD.

2. TRADE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE PROPOSAL - COMMERCE HAS
INFORMALLY ADVISED US THAT A PROPOSAL WHICH BEWT
PUT FORWARD FOR COMMERCE'S FY 1980 BUDGET "WISH LIST"
FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF TRADE DEVELOPMENT OFFICES IN
BUCHAREST, BUDAPEST, AND PEKING HAS SURVIVED THE
FIRST COMMERCE-WIDE CUT. WHILE THE PROPOSAL IS STILL FAR
SHORT OF RECEIVING FINAL COMMERCE APPROVAL, OUR FRIENDS
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IN COMMERCE FELT THEY SHOULD ALERT US TO IT TO GET OUR
INITIAL INFORMAL VIEWS AND THOSE OF THE POSTS CONCERNED.
WHAT BEWT HAS IN MIND ARE MODEST OPERATIONS ALONG THE
LINES OF THE PRESENT WARSAW TRADE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE. THEY
PROPOSED FUNDS (WE DON'T KNOW THE AMOUNT) FOR WHAT THEY
FIGURED WOULD COVER OPENING OFFICES PHYSICALLY SEPARATE
FROM THE CHANCERIES AND A TOTAL OF SIX EMPLOYEES (AMERICANS

AND LOCAL STAFF) FOR ALL THREE OFFICES. WE LIKE THE IDEA
IN PRINCIPLE AND WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING YOUR VIEWS
VIA THIS CHANNEL. INCIDENTALLY, WHILE COMMERCE IS NOT
WEDDED TO THE CONCEPT OF TDO'S BEING LOCATED AWAY FROM
THE CHANCERIES, THEY BELIEVE THIS IS PREFERABLE,
ALTHOUGH RECOGNIZING IT WOULD BE MUCH MORE COSTLY. WE
AGREE, BUT, WITH REGARD TO BUDAPEST, WE DID NOTE TO THEM
THE THEORETICAL POSSIBILITY OF LOCATING A TDO ON THE SIDE
OF THE CHANCERY BUILDING IN THE AREA WHERE THE COMMISSARY
IS NOW LOCATED. VANCE

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